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ABSTRACT

The data summarized in this paper represent 11 years (1977-1988) of information on the status of women in intercollegiate athletics gathered in an on-going national study of all four-year college and university members of the NCAA with intercollegiate athletic programs for women. It is noted that over this period there has been an increase in sports participation by girls and women and a decrease in women in leadership positions. (JD)

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WOMEN IN INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORT

A Longitudinal Study--Eleven Year Update: 1977-1988

R. Vivian Acosta

Linda Jean Carpenter

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WOMEN IN INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORT

A Longitudinal Study - Eleven Year Update
1977-1988
R. Vivian Acosta - Linda Jean Carpenter

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>> The average number of sports offered for women has grown to 7.31 per school. Ten years ago it was 5.61. Basketball, volleyball, tennis and cross country are the four most popular sports.

>> Only 48.3% of the coaches of women's teams are females. In 1972 more than 90% of women's teams were coached by females.

>> Less than 1% of the coaches of men's teams are females.

>> About 5757 jobs exist in 1988 for head coaches of women's teams. This is an increase of 52 jobs since last year but women did not share in any of the increase and actually hold 7 fewer jobs than in 1987.

>> Only 16% of women's programs are headed by a female administrator. In 1972 more than 90% were headed by a female.

>> Women hold 29% of all administrative jobs in women's programs.

>> No females at all are involved in the administration of 32% of women's programs.

Background. The architecture of sports for girls and women in the United States has changed remarkably in the last one and a half decades.

In 1971 the AIAW (Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women) drew its first breath. A year later, Congress enacted Title IX, to become effective in 1978, prohibiting sex discrimination in educational programs receiving federal funds. With Title IX's passage and the enlargement of AIAW's membership and financial base, a massive growth in the number of girls and women participating in sport took place.

In counterpoint, local leadership positions such as coach, athletic director, and official, which were previously held by women, became more frequently occupied by men.

Throughout the life of the AIAW the involvement of women in the national governance of women's intercollegiate athletics grew steadily. When the NCAA also offered a governance structure for women's sports, and when the AIAW lost its anti-trust lawsuit against the NCAA, the AIAW drew its last breath leaving the field of national governance to the male-led NCAA (and its smaller counterpart, the NAIA).

Title IX also left the field for the period of four years from 1984 to 1988. The 1984 U.S. Supreme Court *Grove City* decision effectively denied the application of Title IX to non-federally funded programs such as college departments of physical education and athletics. In March of 1988 however, Congress enacted, over a presidential veto, the Civil Rights Restoration Act which effectively renews the jurisdiction of Title IX over college departments of physical education and athletics. The period of four years without Title IX, were years in which athletic scholarships for women were reduced and other negative changes were made in some women's intercollegiate athletic programs.

The positive/negative pattern of the last 16 years can be summarized as: An increase in sports participation by girls and women and a decrease in women in leadership positions.

A number of projects, programs and groups have been encouraging the positive parts of the pattern and intervening against the negative parts. If you would like information on these projects or a list of more detailed readings on the changing status of women's sports, please let us know.

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Please note: Future updates may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped (45¢) envelope) with request to L. Carpenter/V.Acosta Dept. of PE, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, NY 11210 (13 year update anticipated March, 1990)

Data Summary The data summarized on the following pages represent eleven years (1977-1988) of information on the status of women in intercollegiate athletics gathered in an on-going national study of all four-year college and university members of the NCAA with intercollegiate athletic programs for women. In addition, a smaller on-going study concerning the causes of the changes in status is also summarized for your use in the attached document (green pages).

Participation. The opportunity for female athletes to participate in intercollegiate sports has increased during the past eleven years. For example, in 1977, one year before the Title IX compliance date, the number of sports offered women was 5.61 per school. In 1980 the number had grown to 6.48, in 1986 to 7.15 and in 1988 to 7.31.

Basketball continues to be the most common sport in women's intercollegiate programs but the fastest growing sports since 1977 are soccer (found in 2.8% of schools in 1977 and 38.3% in 1988), and cross country (found in 29.4% of schools in 1977 and 82.4% in 1988). Other sports showing major increases are: softball, track, and swimming. Minor sports showing a marked increase are crew, golf, and lacrosse. Over the years though, the number of junior varsity opportunities for female athletes and coaches has declined.

Leadership. The decrease in the percentage and number of women serving as coaches continues. This is true even though the number of coaching jobs has increased. There is general agreement in the literature that 90 to 100% of coaching jobs for women's teams were held by females when Title IX was enacted in 1972. By 1977 our data show a precipitous decline had already taken place with women holding only 58.2% of the coaching jobs within women's sports. In 1988 the percentage had dropped to 48.3%.

The literature is in agreement that in 1972 more than 90% of these programs were directed by a female. In 1988, only 16.05% of women's intercollegiate programs were under the supervision of a female head athletic director.

There has been no similar entrance of females into the coaching or administrative ranks of men's programs. In 1972 less than 1% of these positions were held by females and it remains so to this day.

In fact, over 32% of programs for women have no female at all involved in the administrative structure. In Division III where there are fewer individuals in the administrative structures at each school, it is very common to find no female involved. For instance, in Division III almost 38% of of the programs have no female representation compared to 25.6% in Division I.

Causes. The gender make-up of the administration might have some influence on the gender make-up of the coaching staffs. In a parallel study concerning the reasons for the gender distribution in the coaching staffs, we found a number of interesting perceptions and, indeed, differences in perceptions based on the respondent's gender. For a summary of the 1988 update of this parallel study, please refer to the green pages which accompany this document.

Regardless of the sub-group (male/female, Division I,II, III), of the respondent and the differing perceptions as to the causes, there was a pervasive expression that procedures should continue to be developed to increase the representation of female administrators and coaches.

Administrative Structure. A two-person administrative structure is the most common structure in any division. This might suggest a greater opportunity for females to be represented in the administration yet often this is not the case.

In Division III schools, where entry level jobs might be expected to require less experience than in Division I, it is much more likely to find a single administrator (Division III=37.1% and Division I=10.8%). Almost 38% of Division III schools have no female at all involved in the administration while only 25.6% of Division I schools have no female involved. So, where entry level jobs should be more easliy obtained, they are less obtainable for women.

There has been an increase of 214 jobs within the administrative structures in the last two years (1613 jobs in 1986 compared to 1827 jobs in 1988). Yet there are only 528 women holding jobs within the administrative structures of women's programs (28.9% of the 1827 jobs). Indeed, the average number of women involved in the administration of women's programs is less than one per school (0.67 females/school).

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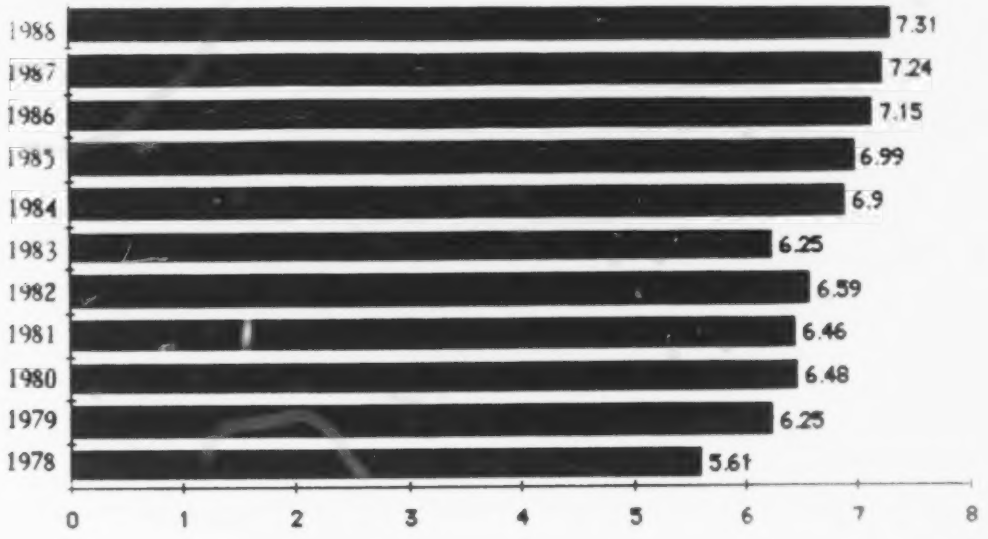
Average Number of Women's Teams Per School

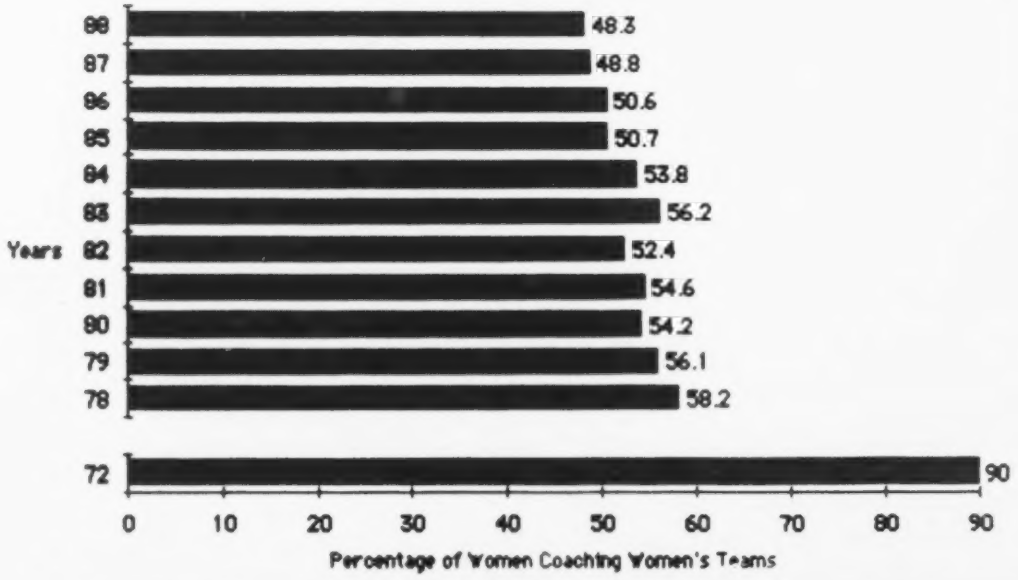


The years have brought

an increase in the opportunity to participate but

a decrease in the opportunity to coach.

Percentage of Women Coaching Women's Teams



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SPORT OFFERINGS FOR FEMALE INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETES

SPORT	PERCENT OF SCHOOLS OFFERING EACH SPORT										
	87/88	86/87	85/86	84/85	83/84	82/83	81/82	80/81	79/80	78/79	77/78
Archery	**1.1**	1.2	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.8	3.3	**3.0**
Badminton	**1.1**	1.2	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.2	3.6	4.4	5.4	6.1	**5.9**
Basketball	**97.0**	97.2	97.1	96.8	95.7	93.8	97.3	95.9	97.5	96.4	**90.3**
Bowling	**1.6**	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.9	3.3	3.6	3.6	**3.4**
Crew	**11.1**	10.9	8.4	8.1	6.9	7.0	7.4	7.7	7.2	6.9	**6.9**
Cross Count.	**82.4**	80.1	78.5	75.2	64.0	59.9	59.5	54.0	46.6	39.6	**29.4**
Fencing	**9.2**	9.5	8.8	9.1	8.0	8.0	10.4	9.8	9.6	9.5	**9.8**
Field Hockey	**32.6**	33.5	34.8	35.5	30.2	30.3	34.6	36.1	37.1	38.2	**36.3**
Golf	**24.3**	22.57	24.5	23.0	20.5	19.8	19.7	18.5	24.1	20.8	**19.9**
Gymnastics	**16.8**	17.5	20.6	20.4	18.6	20.0	22.1	23.0	25.6	28.2	**25.9**
Ice Hockey	**3.0**	3.2	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.4	2.9	2.9	1.8	1.5	**1.3**
Lacrosse	**18.3**	18.2	16.9	17.1	13.5	13.3	13.5	13.7	13.9	13.8	**13.0**
Riding	**2.6**	2.6	2.7	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.2	3.1	2.5	**2.0**
Riflery	**2.6**	3.2	4.2	4.2	2.8	2.7	1.8	1.9	3.4	3.3	**3.8**
Sailing	**3.4**	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.5	**2.3**
Skiing	**5.8**	5.8	6.7	6.6	4.9	5.0	5.7	5.4	5.2	4.6	**3.6**
Soccer	**38.3**	35.1	29.7	26.8	18.7	16.4	16.4	12.5	8.2	4.6	**2.8**
Softball	**72.5**	72.7	69.6	68.4	65.6	65.6	67.1	65.6	62.3	58.9	**48.4**
Squash	**3.2**	3.0	3.4	3.3	2.0	2.0	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.5	**2.3**
Swim/Dive	**55.0**	54.9	54.2	53.5	44.8	42.5	49.1	48.6	46.9	44.8	**41.0**
Synch.Swim	**0.7**	0.7	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.3	2.7	3.3	3.2	3.4	**3.3**
Tennis	**89.9**	90.3	88.5	87.0	82.6	82.6	85.5	85.4	88.6	86.5	**80.0**
Track	**66.8**	64.6	67.2	63.8	58.7	57.2	62.0	59.3	58.6	54.3	**46.1**
Volleyball	**91.2**	91.0	87.7	86.3	84.0	83.6	85.7	84.9	87.8	85.9	**80.1**

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WOMEN'S INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS COACHED BY WOMEN

SPORT	PERCENT OF FEMALE COACHES									
	87/88	86/87	85/86	84/85	83/84	82/83	81/82	80/81	79/80	78/79	77/78
Archery	66.7	71.4	60.0	80.0	77.7	83.3	58.3	60.0	76.5	75.0	83.4
Badminton	66.7	71.4	66.6	75.0	57.1	62.5	70.8	72.4	72.7	73.0	75.0
Basketball	58.5	59.9	61.0	62.7	64.9	66.6	71.2	73.7	76.5	77.7	79.4
Bowling	11.1	9.1	16.7	16.7	28.6	35.7	47.4	45.5	40.9	36.4	42.9
Crew	27.0	21.0	22.0	29.1	23.5	26.9	26.6	29.4	18.2	19.1	11.9
Cross Count.	19.5	18.7	21.8	21.1	19.7	22.4	21.6	22.0	25.0	29.9	35.2
Fencing	30.8	33.3	32.7	35.2	37.2	40.7	34.7	35.4	37.3	46.6	51.7
Field Hockey	96.2	96.8	97.1	93.8	98.2	96.9	99.6	98.3	98.3	97.4	99.1
Golf	41.3	37.5	44.1	37.5	39.7	40.4	48.9	49.6	46.3	55.1	54.6
Gymnastics	53.7	55.6	55.7	55.4	59.1	60.1	67.3	68.7	66.6	68.0	69.7
Ice Hockey	0.0	0.0	46.7	37.5	9.5	11.1	21.1	26.4	18.2	11.1	37.5
Lacrosse	95.2	95.1	89.0	90.1	95.0	93.9	96.9	96.7	100.0	100.0	98.7
Riding	100.0	100.0	81.2	78.6	89.5	94.4	93.8	93.4	73.7	73.4	75.0
Riflery	13.3	5.6	16.0	12.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	7.7	19.0	10.0	17.4
Sailing	5.3	5.6	5.9	6.2	15.0	19.0	22.2	31.3	8.3	13.3	7.1
Skiing	18.2	15.2	48.6	7.7	13.8	13.5	15.8	16.7	25.0	25.0	22.7
Soccer	23.0	24.1	30.7	23.9	26.8	30.6	33.0	27.7	28.0	35.7	29.4
Softball	67.2	67.5	68.0	64.9	68.6	70.9	74.6	75.8	82.9	83.1	83.5
Squash	66.7	70.6	60.0	50.0	40.0	53.3	63.2	61.2	53.0	73.3	71.4
Swim/Dive	25.3	25.7	30.0	31.2	33.2	35.0	36.5	41.4	44.8	50.9	53.6
Synch. Swim	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	72.7	90.0	100.0	95.3	95.0	90.5	85.0
Tennis	52.2	54.9	54.8	56.9	59.7	61.5	65.3	69.1	68.9	71.6	72.9
Track	21.6	20.8	23.1	24.1	26.8	30.6	33.7	34.8	43.1	46.5	52.3
Volleyball	71.0	70.2	71.3	72.0	75.5	76.7	74.8	78.0	83.7	83.8	86.6

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24 MOST POPULAR SPORTS
1988

Sport	1988 Rank	[86, 84,77]	% of Schools Offering Sport	% of Teams Coached by Women
Basketball	1	[1,1,1]	97.0	58.5
Volleyball	2	[2,2,2]	91.2	71.0
Tennis	3	[3,3,3]	89.9	52.2
Cross Country	4	[4,5,8]	82.4	19.5
Softball	5	[5,4,4]	72.5	67.2
Track	6	[6,6,5]	66.8	21.6
Swim/Diving	7	[7,7,6]	55.0	25.3
Soccer	8	[9,10,20]	38.3	23.0
Field Hockey	9	[8,8,7]	32.6	96.2
Golf	10	[10,9, 10]	24.3	41.3
Lacrosse	11	[12,12,11]	18.3	95.2
Gymnastics	12	[11,11,9]	16.8	53.7
Crew	13	[14,14,13]	11.1	27.0
Fencing	14	[13,13,12]	9.2	30.8
Skiing	15	[15,15,16]	5.8	18.2
Sailing	16	[18,18,21tie]	3.4	5.3
Squash	17	[17,20,21tie]	3.2	66.7
Ice Hockey	18	[20,16tie,24]	3.0	0.0
Riding	19tie	[19,19,23]	2.6	100.0
Riflery	19tie	[16,17tie,15]	2.6	13.3
Bowling	21	[21tie,23,18]	1.6	11.1
Badminton	22tie	[21tie,21,14]	1.1	66.7
Archery	22tie	[23,24,19]	1.1	66.7
Synch.Swim	24	[22,23,18]	0.7	100.0

PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN COACHING ALL 24 SPORTS

1972 estimated by various researchers to be 90.+

1978	58.2	
1979	56.1	
1980	54.2	
1981	54.6	
1982	52.4	
1983	56.2	
1984	53.8	(Div I-49.9, Div II-52.2, Div III-58.8)
1985	50.7	
1986	50.6	(Div I-45.5, Div II-46.8, Div III-57.2)
1987	48.8	
1988	**48.3**	

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GENDER REPRESENTATION IN ADMINISTRATION OF WOMEN'S PROGRAMS

Male Head Athletic Directors of **Women's** Programs:

Percentage of Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Programs with Male Head Athletic Directors:

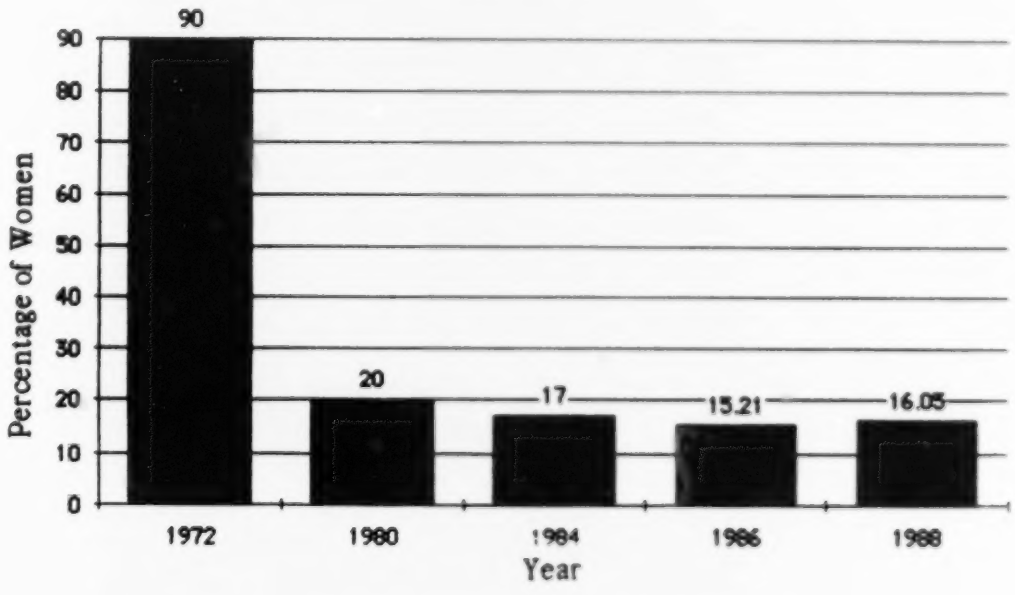
	1988	1986	1984
All Divisions	**83.95**	84.79	83.00
Divison I	91.63	90.65	90.00
Division II	85.36	84.78	84.10
Division III	77.08	79.58	78.80

No Female Representation in Athletic Administrative Structure:

Percentage of Schools Having No Female Representation in Administrative Structure at Any Level:

	1988	1986	1984
All Divisions	**32.45**	31.92	31.60
Division I	25.61	23.36	21.40
Division II	33.33	34.05	36.90
Division III	37.91	38.33	36.90

PERCENTAGE OF FEMALE HEAD ATHLETIC DIRECTORS OF WOMEN'S PROGRAMS



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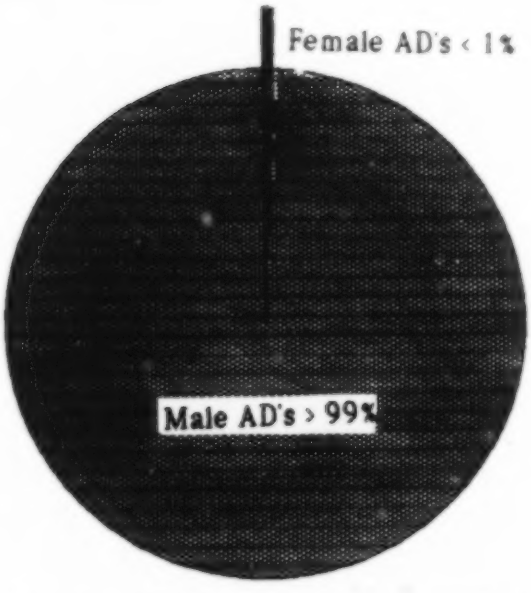
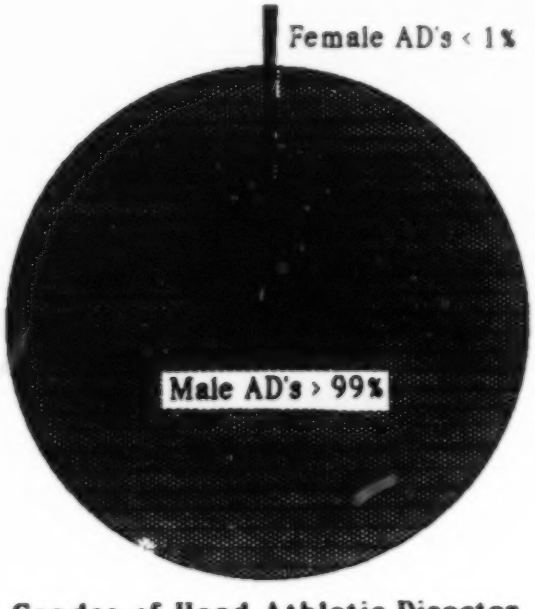
1972



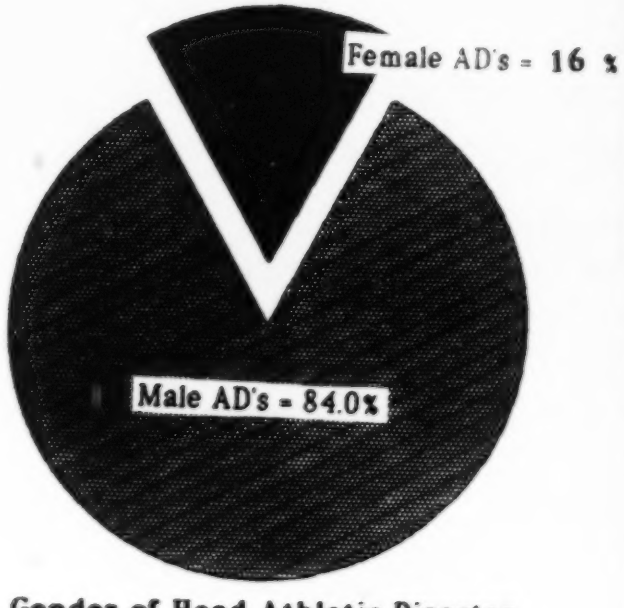
Gender of Head Athletic Director
Men's Programs

Gender of Head Athletic Director
Women's Programs

1988



Gender of Head Athletic Director
Men's Programs



Gender of Head Athletic Director
Women's Programs

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ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES

Average Number of Administrators in Athletic Administration per School:

All Divisions:	**2.32**
Division I:	2.77
Division II:	2.02
Division III:	2.10

Average Number of Women in Athletic Administration per School:

All Divisions:	**0.67**
Division I:	0.75
Division II:	0.54
Division III:	0.67

Percentage of Schools with Various Numbers of Administrators

	All	Div.I	Div.II	Div. III
1 Administrator	25.75	10.83	28.46	37.08
2 Administrators	41.27	36.45	43.90	44.17
3 Administrators	24.87	35.96	26.02	15.00
4 Administrators	4.76	9.36	0.01	2.92
5 Administrators	2.12	4.93	0.01	0.42
6 Administrators	0.71	1.48		0.42
7 Administrators	0.35	0.99		
More than 7	0.18	0.49		

Gender Representation in Administrative Structures of Women's Programs:

	Total Jobs	#Women	%Women	#Men	%Men
1988	**1827**	**528**	**28.9%**	**1299**	**71.10%**
1986	1613	-- [These data not readily available.] --			

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